

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION**  
**COVER SHEET**

**SUBJECT: ABSCAM**

**PART 1 OF 2**

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
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Exec. AD-LES	_____
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Crim. Inv.	_____
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Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

OUTSIDE SOURCE

*7/19* 0  
PUBLIC RESPONSE RE ABSCAM

*Feb 3 - 80*

Wake up and get going  
A job well done?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] *h*

*b-6*

*EX-117*  
*63-17561-715*  
*6 FEB 7 1980*

*#2*

*ack necessary.  
pao/nb*

*63-17561-715*  
*6 FEB 7 1980*

*59 AUG 2 1980*

[Redacted]  
Indiana [Redacted]

b-6

Feb 4, 79

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Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Public Response Re Abscam

Dear Mr Webster

I Love it!

63-17561

your Investagdon of the congress  
is the best thing the F.B.I.  
has Ever done. I dont think a  
of our congressmen are weak But  
this should get the rest of them to  
clean there acts up. My Pet Peave  
is the way Israel has bought land  
paid for our ~~ing~~ Congress. Israel  
continues to settle occupiad Arab Land  
against the wishes of Every country in the  
wourd. But Many of our Congressmen  
back Israel no matter what they do. I  
am positive the Jewish Dollars have  
Flowed to ~~senators~~ senators so they must  
support Israel. Anyway thank you.

EXP. PROC.

4-38 DE-93

63-17561

FEB 18 1980

FBI

Mark wanted  
1-22-80

[Redacted]

b-6

February 1980 From

TO

The Director of The F.B.I.  
MR. William Webster

3) Public Response by  
Dear Sir: ALSCAM

I want to congratulate you AND  
the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
ON the recent uncovering of some bad  
politicians. Specifically the ones who  
thought that they would get some  
fast money from some rich Arabs.

I just want you to know that I'm  
happy to see our justice system AT  
work, AND AS AN American I'm proud to  
be A citizen of this country.

I just hope now, that the courts,  
if this ever gets that far, will be  
harsh to these suppose to have been  
servants of the taxpayers.

"Well Done Sir!"

Ack  
3/31/80  
NB: lmb

Sincerely

N 63-17561-1

DE-60 N-22

4/10/80  
FEB 6 1980



Feb 4th, 1980

THE HONORABLE  
MR. WEBSTER  
DIRECTOR OF THE F.B.I.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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Exec. AD Adm.	_____
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Director's Sec'y	_____

Public Response Re  
DEAR MR. WEBSTER, HDSCH

I like many concerned citizens  
was shocked and dismayed at the latest  
revelations of ABSEAN became public, particularly  
since it involves so many political leaders  
from my home state.

I wanted however to take this  
opportunity to let you know that as distasteful  
it may be, I commend your agency's courage  
and diligence to recognize and take action against  
elected officials who betray the trust of  
the citizenry that elects them.

Realizing you are extremely busy and  
certainly respecting your privacy, I would consider  
it a singular honor if I could receive a  
personal written reply from you as to your  
thoughts how this present conflict will effect  
our political process.

In conclusion, may I add again, your  
agency through your direction is once again  
gained its prominence as one of the greatest  
law enforcement agencies in the world.

Sincerely  
[Signature]

60-17561-3  
2) [Redacted]  
3) [Redacted] NEW JERSEY, [Redacted]

EXP. PROC. #49  
FEB 11 1980

February 4 1980

Dear Director Webster

~~Public Interest~~ ~~ADSCAR~~

With Congress investigating itself and whitewashing the members who were caught red handed dipping in the till or accepting bribes it would be a big mistake on the part of the F.B.I. and the Justice Department to turn over the evidence <sup>to ETHICS COMMITTEES</sup> you have collected on the latest bribery case.

Do not short circuit the citizens of our country by letting the Ethics Committees of Congress have information that should be handled by the Grand Jury and our courts

63-17561-5

The Roman Empire fell because of corruption and we must seek out and remove corrupt members of our government

Respectfully 4/19/80

60 MAY 22 1980

b-6

41 4

ack

4/1/80

NB: lmb

NML

to the FBI. <sup>(2)</sup>

I urge that members of both  
Parties be tested - so that  
nobody can charge selective entrapment  
or partisan politics.

And I congratulate you on  
filming or video-taping the  
activities so that nobody can say  
the witnesses are lying!

Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

17 DIRECTOR

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
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Exec. AD-LES	_____
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**[REDACTED]** b6  
N. J. **[REDACTED]**

Feb. 4, 1980

**URGENT**

Director Wm. Webster  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Public response  
Re: 1/11/80

Dear Mr. Webster;

my congratulations to you and the FBI  
for operation Sting! Conduct more of these  
type operations - keep federal, state &  
local officials in fear of being dishonest!

I'm sure your agents can be  
careful to give opportunity - but not to  
coerce for entrapment - so that the  
officials have a free choice as to whether  
to take payments - to refuse them -  
or even to report the "offer"

80 MAY 28 1980

(over)

63-17561-7

FEB 8 1980  
4/10/80

FBI DDC #410  
FEB 8 1980

February 4, 1980

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Director  
The Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Director:

*Public Response RE ABSCAM*  
It is most reassuring to read and view the efforts of your Bureau as reported on media communications. I speak of operation ABSCAM. To know that these operations are designed to remove or ethically sanction weak members of our representative government through trial and House debate is truly comforting. It underscores my faith in The United States of America as a progressive society dedicated to responsible freedom and decision. Each day, hard decisions face all members of our national legislature. These decisions are to be made by men beyond reproach and to benefit the majority of Americans and not just the powerful few groups which exercise temptation; the kind that people seem to want.

Thank you for your dedication toward supporting the backbone of our representative government, ethics. I personally hope that more operations are planned for the future, an effective program must continue.

Thank you once again.

Respectfully,

1) [Redacted]  
2) [Redacted]  
3) [Redacted] N. J. [Redacted]

b-6

*215*  
FEB 11 1980  
59 AUG 12 1980

*No ack necessary.  
In response to his 2-7-80 let. he  
was written on 2-27-80 thanking  
him for views on  
Abcam.*

138

138

13-17561-

7113

13-17561-7

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OUTSIDE SOURCE

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PUBLIC RESPONSE RE ABSCAM

7/14

4 Feb 80

Dear Sir:

A wonderful job -  
Hang them all.

[REDACTED]

EXP. PROC. #40  
40 FEB 2 1980

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7/15  
6 FEB 1980  
SIX

Illegible  
no ack  
2/5  
ret  
6 AUG 8 1980

63-17561

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and

TRUE COPY

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2) [REDACTED]  
3) [REDACTED] N.J. [REDACTED]

Feb. 4, 1980

Director Wm. Webster  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Webster,

My congratulations to you and the FBI for operation Sting! Conduct more of these type operations -- keep federal, state & local officials in fear of being dishonest!

I'm sure your agents can be careful to give opportunity -- but not to coerce for entrapment -- so that the officials have a free choice as to whether to take payments -- to refuse them -- or even to report the "offer" to the FBI.

I urge that member of both parties be tested -- so that nobody can charge selective entrapment or partisan politics.

And I congratulate you on filming or video-taping the activities so that nobody can say the witnesses are lying.

Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

COPY:aga

ack  
3/21/80  
NB:EMB

1

PA/AN

21  
[REDACTED]  
CALIFORNIA  
[REDACTED]

Public Response Re February 1980

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Director's Sec'y	_____

Judge William Webster, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Abscam

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Judge Webster:

The media have brought me the results of the FBI's "high level sting operation" and I would like to make a few gratuitous professional comments, for what they are worth.

The country is suffering from, both, an attack of neurotic selfishness among the population at large and an acceleration of crime. Many people are fond of pointing this out but few point toward the country's leadership as the source of these trends. Moreover, some thirty years ago I met a member of the Mafia who stated very emphatically that much more money was illegally exchanged at government levels than in all of the country's professional criminal ventures. Since government officials are in a position to cover up most of their illicit behavior it is not difficult to believe in the ice berg theory. What I would have to say about political power seekers as a group would take some space but it is obvious to thinking behavioral scientists that political, criminal, and selfish intent overlap considerably.

I believe that the initiative which the FBI took in the sting operation will start to reorient behavior in politics, will give heart to that population sector which is not illicitly inclined, and may start a process toward healing the nation's selfish/criminal illness.

I hope that the initiative taken by the FBI in this small group of singularities will grow into an ongoing program of determination, strength, and vigor. Although the acts which the FBI will be bringing to prosecution are easy to prove there are many criminal malfeasances in government which are of enormous collective impact. They may presently be difficult to prove under criminal statute but even their exposure is valuable. Perhaps, also, the FBI will be able to develop methods by which many acts of criminal malfeasance can be prosecuted.

I thank you in a personal sense also.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Ack  
4/1/80  
NB: lmb

60 MAY 28 1980

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4/10/80  
FEB 8 1980

SPX  
P. 1/1/81



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Director's Sec'y	_____

Feb. 5, 1980

Director-FBI  
 FBI Building  
 Washington, D.C.

*public response*  
*re ABSCAM*

Dear Sir,

Congratulations to your agency  
 on its superb work in the ABSCAM  
 operation.

My only question is why  
 did you stop? The "Koreagate"  
 investigation was a whitewash  
 and coverup. I am waiting  
 for this new probe to become  
 the same.

Disgustingly, more than  
 two-thirds of our elected  
 officials are cohorts in crime;  
 percentage might even

60 MAY 28 1980

EX-100  
 FEB 8 1980  
 #40

4110/80  
 FEB 9 1980

be higher. To get one is  
"to get them all"

Keep up the good work  
and please don't let this  
turn out to be another  
bureaucratic shuffle with  
no definite results.

Very truly yours  
[REDACTED]

12 DIRECTOR

080.287.4.12

TRUE COPY

b-6

2) [REDACTED]  
3) [REDACTED] N.Y. [REDACTED]

Director-FBI  
FBI Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

Congratulations to your agency on its superb work  
in the Abscam operation.

My only question is "why did you stop"? The "Korea-  
gate" investigation was a whitewash and coverup. I am waiting  
for this new probe to become the same.

Disgustedly, more than two-thirds of our elected  
officials are cohorts in crime; and the percentage might  
even be higher. To get one is "to get them all".

Keep up the good work and please don't let this  
turn out to be another bureaucratic shuffle with no definitive  
results.

Very truly yours,

/s/ [REDACTED]

b-6

ack  
3/31/50  
H.B. K...

COPY:aga

1) [REDACTED]  
2) [REDACTED]  
3) [REDACTED]

114

P. H. [REDACTED]

5 February 1980

William Webster  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
J. Edgar Hoover F.B.I. Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Dear Mr. Director:

*Public response re ABSCAM*

Obviously, I know very little about the ABSCAM investigation. However, due to the noises which have been escaping from Congress since this news became public, I've felt that you and the Bureau may be in need of some public support. This may be considered my part.

Recent history gives one the impression that "white-collar" crime pays very well, indeed.

Illegal activities by our lawmakers is not unusual news. Successful prosecution of these lawmakers, however, is somewhat unusual.

I wish you and your people the very best and I hope that the ABSCAM investigation results in justice for the American people.

Sincerely,

1) [Redacted]  
2) [Redacted]  
3) [Redacted] Kentucky

*b-6*  
*ack 3/31/80*  
*KB:KHS*

*Q*

*36 FEB 9 1980 #40*  
*EXP. PROC.*

*631-17561-13*

*60 MAY 28 1980*

*3*

*4/10/80*  
*FEB 8 1980*

*PRD*

TRUE COPY

Feb. 6th

Dear Mr. Webster,

This is the first letter I have ever written to  
a public official.

I am writing you today because of the great job  
you are doing with the F.B.I. You have my admiration  
and respect. Don't give up the fight you have so  
successfully started.

I feel strongly about this. So many of our elected  
representatives are cheating us in so many ways, it is a  
disgrace and a great disappointment. People are losing faith  
and becoming apathetic. A "what's the use" attitude has been  
developing until you started this investigation and now I  
truly believe you will have the country behind you.

Good luck and God bless you and your wonderful group  
of men.

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

b-6

P.S. Until recently I lived on Staten Island and I have  
seen plenty which bears investigating.

COPY:aga

ack  
3/28/80  
NB:Gmb

[REDACTED]  
CONNECTICUT

1)  
2)  
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February 5, 1980

William H. Webster  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

*Public Response*  
*re Abseam*

Dear Mr. Director:

I would like to express my congratulations and my support for your efforts in this recent investigation of U.S. Congressmen; the so-called 'sting' operation. I have long thought that the FBI had great potential for being used to repress views unpopular to those in power and while I am still in favor of imposing some additional checks and balances on the agency (so that its power can't be easily abused, as in the past) I think that these recent actions will go a long way towards restoring the credibility, impartiality and honor that the FBI has long been lacking. It's too bad that the news leaked out before the indictments could have been issued.

Once again, congratulations, well done!!

Sincerely,

*[Redacted Signature]*  
NY

*#1*  
**EXP. PROC.**  
36 FEB 11 1980

*b-6*

*ack*  
*3/31/80*  
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**60 MAY 28 1980**

*PL*

*PAK/ack*

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Ne v  
Feb 5, 1980

Director of the F.B.I.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

*Public Response to Abscam*

Regarding the current bribery case now in front of the American people. I say CONGRATULATIONS to you and your people. Its about time someone took real interest in protecting the credibilty of our government. My wife and I call on you to keep up the good work. Get rid of the crooks--and I repeat, crooks-- in congress.

We have raised seven children and paid taxes since 1936. We want those taxes to go where they should. Also, we Americans want a honest congress that we can trust in all matters concerning the running our my country. Anyone who profits wrongly deserves just what they get...

Again, we say, GOOD WORK AND KEEP GOING...

*(Handwritten signature/initials)*

Sincerely yours,

*(Redacted signature block)*  
Ne v

**EXP. PROC.**  
FEB 8 1980  
#48

*Ask*  
*3/28/80*  
*NB: lrb*

*Earl Wiley*  
*63-717561-17*  
*4/10/80*

FEB 8 1980

60 MAY 28 1980

*(Handwritten initials)*  
33 DIRECTOR

California

Feb 6, 1980

~~Private Response~~  
Re ABSCPM

Dear Mr. Webster,

As one of the little people in the silent majority, I would like to thank you for your action against the corrupt Congressmen. I am sure much pressure was brought to bear to quash the proceedings and I consider your actions heroic.

I have become increasingly aware of more and more corruption in government, very substantial funds, the Nixon-Agnew crimes, the Korea and Vietnam debacles — wherein government people typically escape with impunity. I personally believe an extremely high % of govt. officials, Congressmen, and bureaucrats are on the take and get away with it with impunity, even when caught.

I would like improvement in the future for my children and their children and encourage you with this small voice to continue your investigations of crooked government personnel and hopefully nail them to the wall — they are the real enemies of the country. We desperately need honesty and integrity.

EXP. PROC. #40  
NO. FEB 12 1980

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EX-100



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Director's Sec'y	

[Redacted]  
CONNECTICUT

b-4

*Special Rep*  
*ABSCAM*

Feb. 6th

Dear Mr. Webster,

This is the first letter I have ever written to a public official.

I am writing you today because of the great job you are doing with the F.B.I. You have my admiration and respect. Don't give up the fight you have so successfully started.

I feel strongly about this. So many of our elected representatives are cheating us in so many ways it is a disgrace and a great disappointment.

People are losing faith and becoming apathetic. A "what's the use" attitude has been

EXP. PROC.  
40 FEB 11 1980

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23 4/1/80

Developing until you started  
this investigation and now I  
truly believe you will have the  
country behind you.

Good luck and God bless  
you and your wonderful  
group of men.

Sincerely,

b-6

P. A. Vintie recently I lived  
on Staten Island and  
I have seen plenty which  
bears investigating.

Feb 6, 1980

Mr Tolster:

Good for you!! (Referring  
public response) ~~WABSCAM~~  
~~to Abseam~~

This something our  
Country has needed for  
a long long time

Hang in there & keep  
up the excellent work!

We thank you!!

Citizen [REDACTED]

3) [REDACTED]

4) [REDACTED] no [REDACTED]

ack  
3/31/80  
[REDACTED]

63-17561-23

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PA/ut  
[Signature]

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 Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

**OUTSIDE SOURCE**

Mr. Webster:

2-6-80

Congratulations on your departments work in uncovering another series of corruption scandals in the House and Senate.

Congratulations also that it won't be necessary for the Ethics Committee for both branches to conduct trials and hearings of their own over and above the Justice Dept. Everyone that is a sham and more or less a whitewash with no real penalties.

So glad you are back in harness after the politicians almost emasculated FBI and the CIA. Now we can apprehend some Russian Spies and corrupt officials-corrupt unions-officers etc.

1) [redacted]  
 2) [redacted]  
 3) [redacted] III.  
*Public response to abscon*

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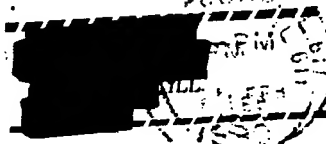
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 Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

OUTSIDE SOURCE



Chief Mr. William Webster  
 FBI--Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 9th street and Pa. Avenue--N.W.  
 Washington,  
 D.C.                      personal--- 20535

U.S. Postage 10c

b-6

© USPS 1978

- 1) [Redacted]
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OUTSIDE SOURCE

Public Response Re Abscam

*Hawaii Special*  
**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 409 Mountain Avenue  
 Bound Brook, N.J.  
 Founded in 1688

*108014*

*NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08801*  
 FEB 11 1980

*ALWA*  
*ZIP*

**POST CARD**  
 Address  
*Courageous men*  
*of the FBI.*  
*Washington, DC.*  
*20510*  
*(attn: Mr. Webster)*  
*17 DIRECTOR*  
*17 FEB 11 '80*

*Congratulations*  
*on your "ABSCAM*  
*bag job - you should*  
*have got them 7 years*  
*ago - But now I do!*  
*My prayers were*  
*answered - TEL*  
*Williams to contact*  
*me if he needs my*  
*assistance -*

*Edm*

b-6 DE-50 63-17561-27X  
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6 JUL 10 1980

*538*  
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*Wark.*  
*100/100*

Feb 6, 1980

William Webster

PUBLIC RESPONSE RE ABSCAM

I am very pleased with your ABSCAM investigation. I would like to urge you to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law. I would however like to know why these people were not arrested and subjected to the process of bail like every other citizen. b-6

I would also like to encourage you in your investigation of Senator Cannon of Nevada.

I would also like to remind you that organized crime smuggles 90% of its heroin and cocaine into this country as raw and processed sugar thru the C & H Sugar Co of Martinez, California (Benicia).

68 AUG 11 1980

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7715  
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I would like to encourage you to step up your efforts

F&amp;D

OVER

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against organized crime. I believe  
you could be doing a lot  
more than you are doing.

I hope your recent activities  
indicate a more aggressive  
attitude on the part of the  
H. B. O.

I am beginning to have  
renewed faith in the talents  
of the H. B. O. and yourself.

I think you should make  
yourself and the Bureau more  
visible in the future.

Thanking You <sup>66</sup>

[REDACTED]

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RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
FBI

CA

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DIRECTOR



TRUE COPY

Feb. 6, 1980

William Webster

I am very pleased with your ABSCAM investigation. I would like to urge you to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law. I would however like to know why these people were not arrested and subjected to the process of bail like every other citizen.

I would also like to encourage you in your investigation of Senator Gannon of Nevada.

I would also like to remind you that organized crime smuggles 90% of it's heroin and cocaine into this country as raw and processed sugar thru the C&H Sugar Co of Martinez, California (Benicia).

I would like to encourage you to step up your efforts against organized crime. I believe you could be doing a lot more than you are doing.

I hope your recent activities indicate a more aggressive attitude on the part of the F.B.I.

I am beginning to have renewed faith in the talents of the F.B.I. and yourself. I think you should make yourself and the Bureau more visible in the future.

Thanking you

/s/

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P. H. H. H.

Public Release Re: Abscon

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[REDACTED] 2/6/80

Mr William Webster,  
Director of FBI  
Wash, D.C.

OUTSIDE SOURCE

b-6

Dear Mr Webster  
your organization has cer-  
tainly sunk to a new all  
time low in your en-  
trapment of congressmen  
and others. Do you realize  
that in being a party to  
offering bribes you are  
equally guilty.

Knowing the conservative  
stance of Cong Richard Kelly,  
and possibly the other Cong-  
ressmen, your maneuver  
is purely political 3/1/81  
attempting to alienate  
support from them. 7-31-  
your maneuver would  
have been unthinkable  
during Edgar Hoover's admin-  
istration, he would have

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8/1/81

2. been unalterably opposed  
to having his FBI organ-  
ization used to wreak  
vengeance on victims to  
to secure a political  
advantage over them.

I would wager if it had  
been Claude Pepper or  
Sam Gibbons or others  
of the same liberal stripe  
you would never have  
been motivated to move  
against them. You are  
a part of the elite forces  
who are strenuously  
attempting to socialize-  
communize our American  
political system.

Your actions in ROSKOPF  
strikes to high heaven  
and you are guilty of  
entrapment & bribery.

May your soul  
rest in Hades

b-6

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Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

2) [REDACTED]  
3) 2/6/80

Fla [REDACTED]

Mr. William Webster,  
Director of FBI  
Wash, D.C.

Dear Mr. Webster,

Your organization has certainly sunk to a new all time low in your entrapment of congressmen and others. Do you realize that in being a party to offering bribes you are equally guilty.

Knowing the conservative stance of Cong. Richard Kelly, and possibly the other congressmen, your maneuver is purely political in attempting to alienate support from them. Your maneuver would have been unthinkable during Edgar Hoovers administration, he would have been unalterably opposed to having his FBI organization used to wreak vengeance on victims to to secure a political advantage over them. I would wager if it had been Claude Ropper or Sam Gibbons or others of the same liberal stripe you would never have been motivated to move against them. You are a part of the elite forces who are strenuously attempting to socialize--communize our americans political system.

Your actions in ABSCAM stinks to high heaven and you are guilty of entrapment & bribery.

May your soul rest in Hades.

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ack  
nb: xmo  
3/10/80  
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February 6, 1980

Mass.

Director, FBI  
FBI Headquarters  
Washington, D. C.

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Dear Sir:

*Public Response Re: Abscam*

I should like to contribute a private citizen's thanks for the Bureau's investigation of Congressmen. I believe that this investigation required political courage and that it was in the behalf of better government.

I am also amused or alarmed at the way Congress has attempted to turn your investigation of them into an investigation of you. How fast they can act when their own skeletons are threatened!

It seems to me that what the FBI needs in this case is the service of a first-rate public-relations agency. Otherwise the dumb-dumbs, who do not understand the significance of dishonest representatives--opportunists and deceivers--will be "blaming" the FBI for one of its most beneficial actions with regard to the democratic process.

Congress has already been busy hamstringing you. You can't afford to let them do more of it. The Lord alone knows what Congress would do if you were caught taking bribes, though it is common, street knowledge that the Congress has been doing this right along.

Sincerely

ab

V-36

As to the "methods" you used, I believe that it is obvious that no honest Congressman, obeying the law, had anything to fear. And I have noted from the MacNeill-Lehrer Report that whenever you could find an honest one, you gave up on him.

66 SEP 8 1981

*62-17561-27X3*  
*ack 3/19/80*  
*7-31-81*  
*FEB 8 1981*  
*PPH/kat*

February 7, 1980

The Voice of the People  
Chicago Tribune  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

*Public Response* *Re* **ABSCAM**

*Judge Webster -  
Thought you may  
be interested in knowing  
of this support!*

It is disturbing that ABSCAM, like Watergate, is fast becoming a household word, thanks to an overkill by some segments of the news media. The Washington Post, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and Walter Cronkite are leading the charge, hurling verbal brickbats at the FBI, accusing them in a familiar scenario of abuses of power in the name of entrapment. It is ironic I think that the Post, the ACLU, Cronkite and their ilk, while suggesting that the victims of ABSCAM are being unfairly maligned in a trial by news media, are at the same time putting the FBI on trial in the media.

I am confident that the majority of the American people agree that neither the victims of ABSCAM nor the FBI should be so maligned.

In the last analysis, it boils down to a matter of accountability. Fortunately, the law enforcement community in this country is strictly accountable to our judicial system for all of its actions. The evidence collected by the FBI in the ABSCAM investigation, and the manner in which it was collected, will eventually be scrutinized by an assortment of admissibility tests prescribed by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure before it can be used against a single defendant. The evidence must survive all of the pretrial motions, an examination of the trial court and, ultimately, the appellate procedures. These procedures and others constitute full accountability by the FBI for its actions.

To whom are the representatives of the news media accountable? May I submit they should be accountable, in a democratic society, only to the truth as characterized by objective and impartial reporting. ABSCAM suggests that some elected officials and others may have been caught with their hands in the "cookie jar." Ultimately, the admissibility of the ABSCAM evidence will be tested and perhaps weighed by a jury. If the ABSCAM victims feel they are being tried unfairly by the media, the press might be well advised to exercise some restraint and not to compound the problem, as some media representatives and the ACLU are doing by accusing the FBI of entrapment or unethical behavior, when these media representatives are not yet privy to any of the evidence or the details surrounding its collection.

Retired Special Agent In Charge  
FBI,

*Ed. 7-16-  
Ret. 2-24-78*

*ack  
4/1/80  
NB: lmb*

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*4/10/80*

*#40*

*EXP 1000  
FEB 12 1980*

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Feb. 7, 1980

Dear Judge [redacted] <sup>re: [redacted]</sup>  
 O ~~pub~~ <sup>re: [redacted]</sup> ~~re: [redacted]~~  
 Thank you for giving  
 the "Bureau" organization  
 and guidance and  
 congratulations on the  
 "Ubscan" investigation  
 that your agents  
 brought into focus.  
 God bless you  
 all.

(A)

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Sincerely,

[redacted signature]

60 MAY 28 1980

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[redacted]

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Director's Sec'y	_____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Feb. 7, 1980

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Sirs: Public Response Re Absam

This letter is to congratulate you (based upon the reports in the Wash. Post and the TV networks) for the astonishingly successful recent "sting" operation in which you helped confirm the belief of many citizens that the U.S. Congress is "a bunch of crooks." The FBI has come a long way since the days of Director Hoover.

I have a suggestion for your next "sting." After renting a suitable residence near Capitol Hill, spread the word that a certain, unidentified Caliph, is temporarily in residence in the U.S. and will pay \$10,000 to sleep with the sister of a U.S. Senator. I can't wait to see how many Senators bring their sisters.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature] Md.

*Wash. wanted,  
1/10/80*

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63-17561



Director William H. Webster  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

February 7, 1980

Attorney-General Benjamin R. Civiletti  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Civiletti:

*PUBLIC RESPONSE RE ABSCAM*

Recent public reports of Federal Bureau of Investigation exploits in the so-called "Abscam" affair leave me both incredulous and deeply disturbed. If the charges are true, they constitute a serious and confidence-shattering indictment of several of our elected officials. I am outraged by "influence peddling for cash" engaged in by public officials. Of course, such charges must be proved and past Bureau allegations make me less than certain that they will hold up in an unprejudiced court of law.

My letter, however, comes not to discuss the alleged crimes which have been detailed in the press. My outrage today concerns the scandalous behavior of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. (To be fair, I probably should say "the scandalous behavior of some Bureau personnel or units" but, unless those persons or units are properly and publicly identified, reprimanded and punished, the whole Bureau stands condemned.)

The Bureau's methods seem to me to be clearly illegal "entrapment," worthy of the worst of the McCarthy era's belief that our government organs need to be illegal and unfair to fight illegality and unfairness. The American Civil Liberties Union seems to be entirely correct in its allegations of entrapment in the affair in question.

Further, the trial by press, the divulging of investigatory information to the public media, reminds me of the F.B.I. excesses during the latter years of the J. Edgar Hoover suzerainty. Those days were often marked by what appeared to be a greater concern for the welfare, reputation and public adulation of the Bureau than with any regard for the best interests of the country and the protection of the United States principles of justice such as "innocent until proven guilty." I am, indeed, outraged at the "trial by press." Our traditions and laws do not grant the Bureau any such right even in the face of the acknowledged reluctance of the legislative bodies to police their own members or to guarantee that they behave legally and ethically.

Elected officials are terribly vulnerable to publicly aired allegations as Senator Joseph R. McCarthy so ably illustrated. A politician's career can be destroyed by public charges from official quarters even if those charges do not have a single scintilla of truth to them. Such may be the result of the trial by press in the "Abscam" affair.

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Ack  
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1/3/80

I find it more than coincidental that many of the best legal minds join many political thinkers and writers of both liberal and conservative persuasions in being terribly upset at the Bureau's behavior in this case. None are condoning the alleged actions of public officials but that is not the primary issue here. The reputation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is at stake. We had thought the "we are above the law" and the character assassination programs of the latter Hoover days, illustrated by the director's vendettas against such people as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., were over and gone. Is our F.B.I. returning to that triumphal era? If so, fair-minded, thinking citizens committed to United States constitutional democracy must judge that the Bureau is again becoming one of the more serious threats to our national security and democracy.

I hope my fears are unduly exaggerated. The reputation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Justice are at stake. I would appreciate whatever you can tell me to explain what has happened and to assure me, with specific and concrete actions rather than glib, general words, that the Bureau is going to operate within the legal and judicial restraints of our American constitutional democratic system.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]  
New York, [REDACTED]

b-6

ccs: Director William H. Webster  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Senator Harrison Williams  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

[REDACTED]  
New York

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February 8, 1980

**URGENT SOURCE**

Mr. William H. Webster  
 Director  
 The Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 J. Edgar Hoover Building  
 10th and Pennsylvania Avenue  
 Washington, D.C. 20535

*Public response re ABSCAM*

Re: Abscam: Arab Scam

Dear Mr. Webster:

It is indeed gratifying to see an official of your stature stand up for what is right in our country. I'm sure the pressures placed upon your offices must be great indeed. But don't let the Bureaucrats get the best of you in the pursuit of honest and integrity in Government.

I am but one of the so-called silent majority who is firmly convinced that if our great nation is to survive, any method necessary must be employed to ferret out possible criminal activity in government. Keep up the good work--the American public can certainly be proud of you and your dedicated employees.

Yours very truly,

*Martin J. Jones*

1) [Redacted]  
 2) [Redacted]  
 3) [Redacted] Illinois

*b-6*

cc: The Honorable Jimmy Carter  
 President of the United States

*63-17561-33*

*ack  
 3/3/80  
 RB. KMC*

*6 4/10/80*

*1/87*  
**60 MAY 28 1980**

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*p/mc*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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WILLIAM WEBSTER DIRECTOR

DLR FBI HQ

WASHDC

BT

YOU HAVE PUBLIC SUPPORT IN YOUR ABSCAN INVESTIGATION. PLEASE DO NOT  
BE INTIMIDATED BY THE CONGRESS WANTING TO INVESTIGATE THEMSELVES.

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JEN TL#

Public Response Re Abscam

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ADJUTANT GENERAL

FEB 8, 1980

Public Response Re Abscam

My DEAR DIRECTOR,

THEY SAY CONGRESSMAN KELLY  
WAS STUPID TO TAKE \$25,000.  
FROM STRANGERS, IN A STRANGE  
HOME, AND SHOULD BE FIRED  
FROM CONGRESS FROM JUST BEING  
DUMB, NOT CROOKED.

NOW, WHAT ABOUT THE F.B.I. -  
THEY RENT A BUILDING FOR  
ABSCAM. DID THEY CHANGE  
ALL THE LOCKS TO KEEP  
SOMEONE LIKE THE THEEVING  
L.I. NEWS DAY FROM GETTING  
INTO THE BASEMENT TO TAKE  
PICTURES OF ALL THAT SOPHISTICATED  
EQUIPMENT, OR IS THE F.B.I.  
LOADED WITH DOUBLE CROSSING  
EMPLOYEE WILLING TO SELL YOU  
OUT FOR A PRICE 63-1756

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Director's Sec'y	_____

Mr. W. Webster, Director  
FBI  
Penn Avenue & 9th St. NW  
Washington, D.C.

20535

OUTSIDE SOURCE

February 8, 1980

*Public Response RE ABSCAM*

Mr. Walter Cronkite  
Senator Adlai Stevenson

Gentlemen:

I am perplexed by your attacks on the FBI in connection with the recent ABSCAM disclosures.

Mr. Cronkite: If you are really that concerned with fairness and the civil rights of those exposed, I'm surprised you have chosen not to speak out earlier against the truly questionable tactics employed by your own network's 60 Minutes people in their frequent expose' segments.

Senator Stevenson: Where was your stinging rebuke against the Chicago Sun Times and the BGA when they proved, through their Mirage Bar disguise, that Chicago city inspectors were on the take?

The citizenry of this country have little enough protection against dishonest public servants as it is, gentlemen, without your influential voices being raised in a questionable defense of their constitutional rights when they do get caught.

Could it be that your righteous anger surfaces only when your friends become the targets?

Cordially,

cc: Mr. B. Civiletti, Attorney General  
Mr. W. Webster, Director, FBI

5 FEB 15 1980

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Director William Webster  
United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

February 8, 1980

Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
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Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

Representative Mary Rose Oakar  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20505

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Dear Representative Oakar:

I read where you consider FBI agents posing as rich Arabs was an ethnic slur to Arab-Americans.

*Public Response RE ABS Cam*

In your letter you state that Black, native, Jewish, Japanese, Polish, Italian and Hispanic Americans have worn scars of false stereotype and subtle prejudice. We must not forget that just plain Americans were called "ugly Americans" all over the world in the countries where these Americans came from.

Arabs because of the wealth from their oil are naturally associated with plenty of money. I think it is a compliment to America that some Arabs would like to come to a freedom loving country (even if it takes money) and also a compliment that Arabs are rich.

When are the members of Congress going to halt this seperation of Americans by placing so much emphasis on their ethnic backgrounds.

When the playing of the Star Spangled Banner brings at least a slight thrill to a persons' heart maybe even aliens and illegal aliens will become just plain Americans.

I think the FBI has done a real service for the honest "Servants of the people".

No honest Legislator can be entrapped with CASH, that's a bribe.

Sincerely

Ca.

60 AUG 08 1980

ps Copy to: FBI Director William Webster

7 FEB 18 1980

63-17561

EXP-PROC

Copy -  
Mark memory  
P40/104  
me

2/5  
b6

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Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

February 8, 1980

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Dear Sir,

*PUBLIC RESPONSE RE*

It was no surprise to read about the bribing of politicians as I am sure it has been going on for a long time. I am glad the FBI did a good job in bringing this news out to the public. We hope they will be brought to justice like everyone else. We put our trust in these people by voting for them only to find out they are not doing a honest job. Their greed overpowers them. There is no excuse for such behavior, so Civiletti should do his job.

Sincerely,

A Concerned citizen

*N.J.*

*b-6*

**EXP. PROC.**  
NO. FEB 18 1980  
#1250  
*[Signature]*

*No ack.  
insufficient address  
215 PAB/PM  
56 AUG 7 1980  
F25*

DE-50 *63-17561-35X-3*  
*7-15*  
FEB 13 1980  
*63-17561*



Feb. 9, 1980

Public Response Re

RE: THE CASE

Dear Sir -

ADSCAM

With regard to all the "heros" who say the F B I approached them and they "refused," it is sincerely hoped that you will expose them if they are lying - pro or con. New Jersey pols seem to make mileage on either side of any issue, and we are tired of it. Sick and tired!

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Director's Sec'y	_____

36 FEB 14 1980

EXP. PROC.

# 30

b6

The comments in [redacted] about the hopes of a local investigation would have done your heart good. in the grip of a

60 MAY 28 1980

4/10/80  
FEB 14 1980

SEX

small group of the kind  
of people who do not  
waste their time  
unless "big bucks" are  
involved.

By and large, people  
love Aliscand. Congratu-  
lations, and we deeply  
hope it is only the  
beginning!

Sincerely,

b6

24

FEB 14 4 45 PM '80

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
FBI

17 DIRECTOR

MACAHEY



63-17561-36

ENCLOSURE

TRUE COPY

Feb. 9, 1980

Dear Sir--

With regard to all the "heros" who say the FBI approached them and they "refused," it is sincerely hoped that you will expose them if they are lying--pro or con. New Jersey pols seem to make mileage on either side of any issue, and we are tired of it. Sick and tired!

The comments in [REDACTED] about the hopes of a local investigation would have done your heart good. We are in the grip of a small group of the kind of people who do not waste their time unless "big bucks" are involved.

By and large, people love Abscam. Congratulations, and we deeply hope it is only the beginning!

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

NJ [REDACTED]

COPY:aga

Ack  
4/1/80  
NB: lmb

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Director's Sec'y	_____

b-6

Pro/wh

California  
February , 10, 1980

Judge William H. Webster  
Director Of The FBI  
Department Of Justice  
Washington, D.C. 20535

*Public Response*  
*Re Abscam*

Dear Sir:

The following is an old saying that in the thirties was quite prevalent among people in show business: "Successful Performers usually know how their work looks from the front." I am , indeed, happy to say that since you became the director of the FBI , the commendable work of your staff looks mighty good from the front. CONGRATULATIONS!

Be assured , kind Sir, I'll be even more happy if one or more of your fine staff exposes the scum whose ill-advised and illicit conspiracies resulted in my wife's death , and caused many other irreparable losses to devolve upon me.

Be further assured that I stand ready , willing , able and anxious to reply to any questions anent the above well attested to and equally well recorded charges.

With kindest thoughts and every good wish for your continued success in bringing to light the nefarious machinations of some of our alleged "pillars of our society," I shall close and look forward in the fervent hope that at long long last the FBI will be so kind as to do for me what really should have been done thirty years ago.

Respectfully yours,

**CERTIFIED**

No. 0368251

**MAIL**

60 MAY 28 1980

FEB 5 1981

4/14/80  
FEB 10 1980

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 Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

2/10/80

Sir:  
 Congratulations on  
 public release of  
 Operations Abscam by  
 rooting out the corrupt big  
 fish, you'll help to  
 maintain faith in govern-  
 ment.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

63-17541-40

4/10/80

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

63

CONFIDENTIAL

EXP. PROC.  
 40 FEB 14 1980  
 #410

b6

1) [Redacted]  
 3) [Redacted]  
 4) [Redacted] CA

Ack  
 3/8/80  
 NB: Umb

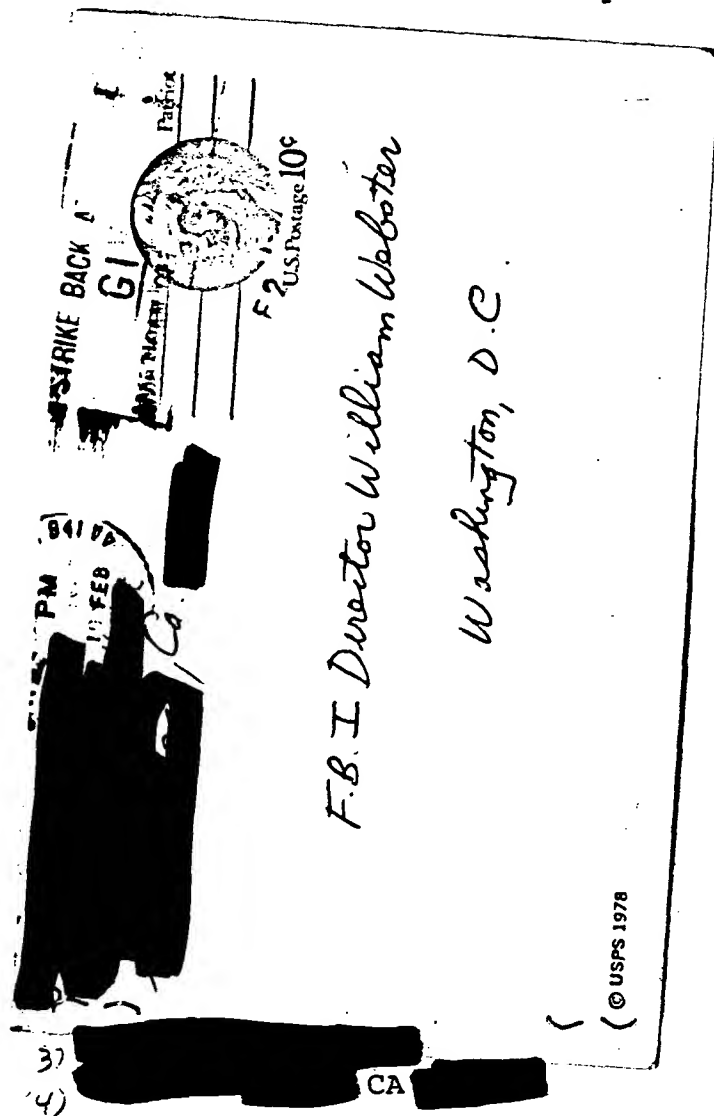
60 MAY 28 1980

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PA 10/10/80

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b-6

**EXP. PROC.**  
 40-FEB-14-1980 #410

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 NB: Umb

60 MAY 28 1980

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PA 1-24

Feb. 10, 1980

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FBI/DOJ

F.B.I. Director William H. Webster  
J. Edgar Hoover F.B.I. Bldg.  
Washington, D.C.

Public Response  
Re AbSCAM

Dear Sir:

I want to commend your agency on a  
done.

I find it reprehensible that twenty-four members  
of Congress should call for the F.B.I. to apologize  
publicly to Arabs throughout the world for  
perpetuating "an unjust stereotype" by having  
its agents pose as rich Arab sheiks and  
businessmen, while totally ignoring Mohammed  
Ali's "unjust stereotype" statements that "Zionists  
Control America" and "the Jews control the world"  
made in his role as President Carter's representative  
to Africa.

Obviously they are not really against  
"unjust stereotype" statements! I can only  
assume all twenty-four Congressmen are  
in some way beholden to the Arabs!

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

63-17561-42

4/10/80  
6 FEB 15 1980

Ack

4/1/80

NB: 60 MAY 28 1980

912

EXP. PROC.  
FEB 15 1980

[Handwritten notes and stamps]



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Director's Sec'y	_____

2) [Redacted]  
 3) [Redacted] Texas  
 Feb. 10, 1980

Mr. William Webster - Director  
 FBI  
 J. Edgar Hoover Building  
 Washington, D.C.

*Public Interest*  
*Absecon*  
**OUTSIDE SOURCE**

Dear Sir:

Thank you for having the guts to expose the bribery of our elected officials. This has concerned me for many years. It threatens the very foundation of our democracy.

I had given up all hope of ever seeing a change since our congress has the power to pass laws putting themselves above the law. And this they have done.

It will be interesting, but nauseating, to watch how the ethics committees work to sweep this under the rug. I can only hope that your cases are solid enough to get convictions.

Convictions alone will not stop the practice, however. Only the constant vigilance of honorable men like yourself will keep it in check.

Thank you and may God stay by your side.

63-17561-44

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted Signature]

cc: President Carter

EXP. PROC. #40  
 30 FEB 14 1980

60 MAY 28 1980

4/10/80  
 11 FEB 11 1980

3

NML

*PA/10/11*

western union

Mailgram



4-003341S040 02/09/80 ICS IPMBNGZ CSP WSHB  
5124922974 MGM TDBN SAN ANTONIO TX 82 02-09 0942A EST

DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON DC 20535

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Public Response  
Re Abuse

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Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

I'VE JUST FINISHED READING AN ARTICLE WHERE 24 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS  
HAVE CALLED IN THE FBI TO APOLOGIZE PUBLICLY FOR THEIR ARAB  
IMPERSONATION I HOPE THAT I COULD RECEIVE A COPY OF THE NAMES OF  
THOSE LAW MAKERS OBVIOUSLY YOUR STAYING OPERATIONS HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT  
A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF HEAT ON PEOPLE WHO CAN'T SEEM TO STAND THE  
FIRE I JUST WANTED YOUR AGENCY TO KNOW THAT I'M ONE CITIZEN WHO  
SUPPORTS YOUR EFFORTS AND LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY

TX

09:43 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

b-6

ack 4/2/80  
3/2/80  
H.D. 10/10/80

Q

RECEIVED  
FEB 11 1980  
#40

63-17561-46

60 MAY 28 1980

P3

4/19/80  
6 FEB 11 1980

W. J. [signature]

PK 01/24

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 Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

2-9-80

7/10  
 PUBLIC RESPONSE  
 to whom it may concern, Q.  
 want to congratulate F.B.I.  
 for the good work, clear out  
 our corrupt politicians who  
 never have enough, to fill  
 their pockets. do not let  
 them get away with it, we  
 want to see some justice  
 done, get rid of bad apples,  
 maybe we can get things done,  
 they sure try to cover up,  
 surprised at Livellotti, who  
 side is he on. sincerely!

[REDACTED]

W.S.

No address  
 59 AUG 12 1980  
 10/11/80  
 FRO

V-38 SE-93

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 3-17561-  
 715  
 7 FEB 18 1980  
 46x

EXP. PROC.  
 40 FEB 12 1980

Director Wm Webster Feb 9, 1980  
Wash DC  
PUBLIC RESPONSE RE ABECAM  
Dear Director

Well the sting perpetrator  
is known. Just a shyster  
Jew with a criminal back-  
ground and close ties to the  
underworld and a grudge  
against Eastern Law-makers  
and the owners of the Atlantic  
City Casino used you and  
your men and taxpayers money  
to get even.

Why don't you investigate Las  
Vegas where it is known the  
owners are Mafia members.

EXP. PROC.  
AT FEB 13 1980  
#40

DE-50

63-17561-4611

7115

FEB 12 1980

AUG 12 1980

1205

18

When I first<sup>2</sup> heard about the "sting" I thought right away of Jewish involvement because they tried to make the Arabs look bad but I didn't believe the Israeli Lobby in Washington that controls the voting of most of the members on the Foreign relations Committee in favor of Israel, would have the clout to dictate to the S.B.I.!! You helped one vicious minded scoundrel to ruin the names of a lot of good men and used your department and Tax Payers dollars to do it. You should be fired

Sincerely

EXD PROE  
AT FEB 13 1980

3 [REDACTED] Pa. [REDACTED]

Pa.

A concerned "old lady" who is  
sorry she thought it might be  
a "Republican" dirty trick. God  
help the Palestinians who are  
under the Israeli heel.

**4C-FEB 13 1980**

~~EXP. PROC.~~

47A

TRUE COPY

Feb 9, 1980

Director Wm. Webster  
Wash. D.C.

Dear Director:

Well the "sting" perpetrator is known. Just a shyster Jew with a criminal background and close ties to the underworld and a grudge against Eastern Law-makers and the owners of the Atlantic City Casino used you and your men and Taxpayers money to get even.

Why don't you investigate Las Vegas where it is known the owners are Mafia members. When I first heard about the "sting" I thought right away of Jewish involvement because they tried to make the Arabs look bad but I didn't believe, the Israeli Lobby in Washington that controls the voting of most of the members on the Foreign relations committee in favor of Israel, would have the clout to dictate to the F.B.I.! You helped one vicious minded scoundrel to ruin the names of a lot of good men and used your Department and Tax Payers dollars to do it. You should be fired.

Sincerely

/s/

Pa.

A concerned "old lady" who is sorry she thought it might be a "Republican" dirty trick. God help the Palestinians who are under the Israeli heel.

COPY:aga

PA

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noncons in Bufiles  
PAS/mt  
63-17561*

2)

3)

11.

OUTSIDE SOURCE

2/9/80

The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Be advised that many people who will not take the time to write a letter are rejoicing in the knowledge that the FBI is in the process of identifying our elected representatives who are bribe-taking, worthless bums.

*Public Response Re: CIBS can*

I have no doubt that the evidence developed by the Bureau is damning, and conclusive as a fish in the milk. Let me congratulate your staff for refusing to release your evidential material to the House "Ethics" Committee, a move which would have been similar to dropping it into a bottomless political pit.

Adlai Stevenson stated in a widely televised interview this week that his Congressional colleagues were being "harassed", "singled-out" and otherwise oppressed by this investigation. It was hard to trust my eyes and ears! This is the son of one of a very distinguished statesman from Illinois, my state!

This letter is meant to convey to you two messages:

- (1) Hooray for you for turning over these rocks
- (2) Keep it up!

CC: Washington POST  
New York TIMES  
Chicago TRIBUNE  
Miami HERALD

SEP 8 1981

*ack  
3/18/80  
NB: KAD*

*Yours Truly*  
[Redacted Signature]

**EXP. PROC.**  
FEB 20 1980

6 FEB 19 1980



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Director's Sec'y	_____

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 4 [REDACTED] CA  
 TEL  
 Public Response Re 2-11-80  
 #13.1. Abscam

Washington D.C.

May I highly commend  
 you for your efforts in  
 securing the Breibaker

I think the enclosed  
 cartoon expresses most all  
 our feelings about "entrapment".

I used to think the low  
 salaries paid Congressmen 25  
 years ago was what tempted  
 them - Now it seems the more  
 they get the more they want!  
 More power to you!

ack

4/1/80

MB: lmb

60 MAY 28 1980

63-17561-11880

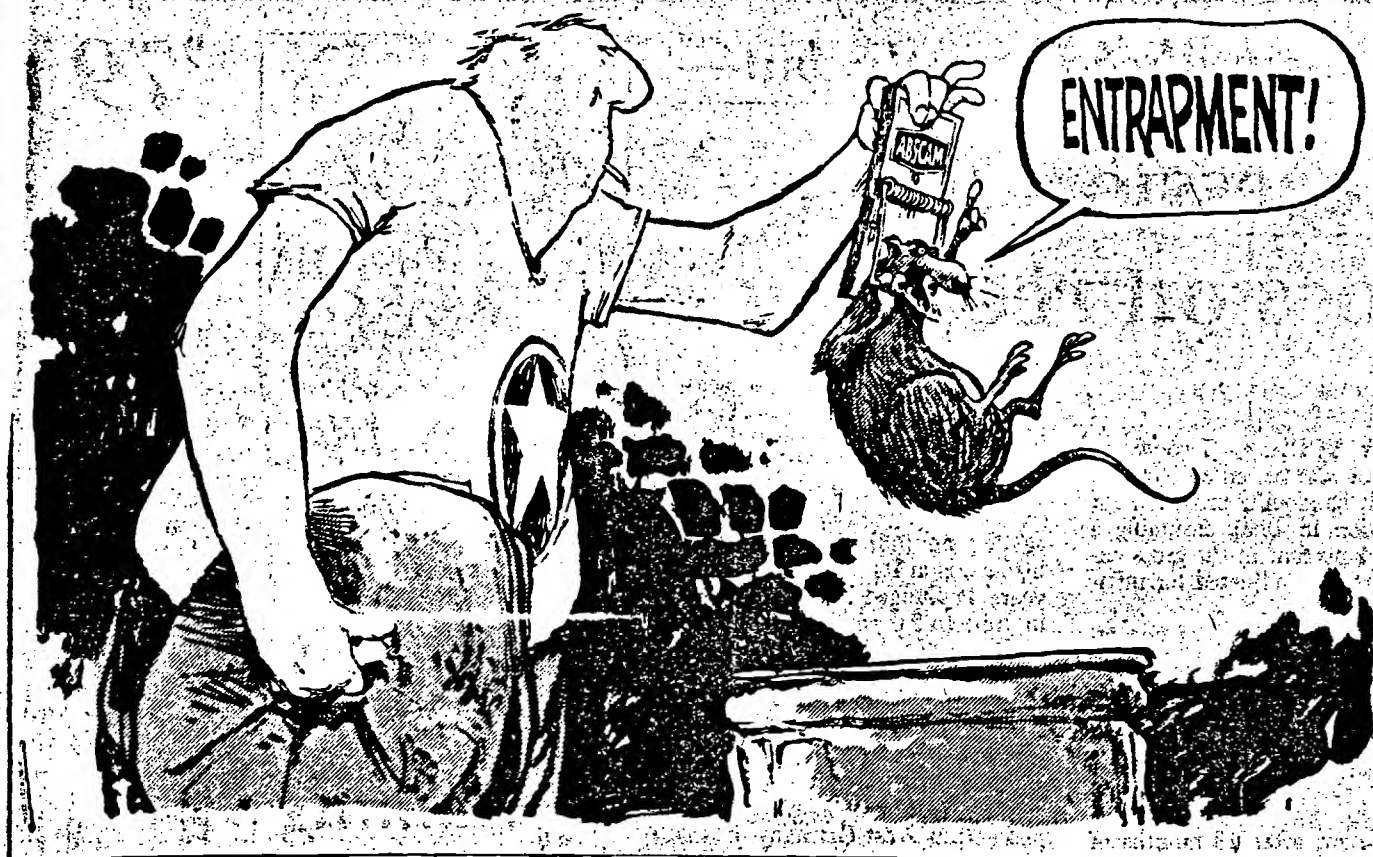
EXP. PROC.  
 30 FEB 20 1980  
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b6

Prison

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MACIELL/BERCHMOND NEWS LEADER © 1980 BY CHICAGO TRIBUNE



B6 INDEPENDENT (AM), PRESS-TELEGRAM (PM)/MON., FEBRUARY 11, 1980

## INDEPENDENT/PRESS-TELEGRAM

604 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California 90844 / Telephone 435-1161

LARRY ALLISON  
Editor

DANIEL H. RIDDER  
Publisher

VANCE CAESAR  
General Manager

DAVID LEVINSON  
Editorial Page Editor

RICH ARCHBOLD  
Managing Editor

DON OHL  
Associate Editor

63-17561-48

Public response re ABSCAM

CRIMINAL RECORDS

Exec AD Adm.	
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Exec AD LES	
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Crim. Inv.	
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Off. Cong. & Public Affs.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Serv.	
Training	
Off. of Liaison & Int. Affs.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

Dear Sir:

I highly support your recent investigation of Congress-regarding Bribes. Keep up the good work. For the first time in a long time I'm proud of the F.B.I. for taking on a real meaningful task.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Address]  
Arizona

36 FEB 11 1980

EXP. PROC.

#100  
[Handwritten initials]

b6

ack  
3/28/80  
NB: Umb

63-17561-50  
4/14/80

23 FEB 11 1980

187  
68 MAY 28 1980

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PAG/MA

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[Redacted] Pa [Redacted]

February 11 1980

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Public

1 RESPONSE

Re  
OUTSIDE SOURCE

50 FEB 14 1980  
#110

Judge William Webster,  
Director  
J. Edgar Hoover Building  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Judge Webster:

ABSCAM

I don't often write anyone, let alone someone I haven't met, but I feel compelled to over this Abscam stuff. I'm sure you're not pleased with it, but your reasons for displeasure may be different than mine, so I'm writing.

63-17561-52

It may very well turn out to be acceptable to me (the leaks don't help my peace of mind), but the aims of the program bothers me. It almost seems it was just aimed at general human weakness rather than serious public vice. It appears

pull  
4-2-80  
web

your fellows just decided to try to see who can with stand or succumb to some

23 FEB 14 1980  
4/10/80

68 MAY 28 1980

PAO/nb/e

fast cash. Some call this entrapment, but I call it scarey. I'm sure I did 100 illegal things last year, but since most of them are in the jay walking category, I really don't worry. This Abscan thing almost makes me feel some paranoia and worry: is someone out there watching? I'm sure it's foolish, but it's not a good feeling to give the country again. I hope I'm wrong about motives, or, if I'm correct, that you change such programs.

Just one more comment, and that is that while I've heard some say the program may irreparably damage the Congressmen's careers, I'm afraid the opposite is true: you may have insured their reelection by causing sympathy. This would be unfortunate if they really are crooks.

Good luck throughout it all.

Yours truly,



b-6

TRUE COPY

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Director's Sec'y	_____

February 11 1980

Judge William Webster  
Director  
J. Edgar Hoover Building  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Judge Webster:

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It may very well turn out to be acceptable to me (the leaks don't help my peace of mind), but the aims of the program bother me. It almost seems it was just aimed at general human weakness rather than serious public vice. It appears you fellows just decided to try to see who can withstand or succumb to some fast cash. Some call this entrapment, but I call it scarey. I'm sure I did 100 illegal things last year, but since most of them are in the jay walking category, I really don't worry. This Abscam thing almost makes me feel some paranoia and worry: is someone out there watching? I'm sure it's foolish, but it's not a good feeling to give the country again. I hope I'm wrong about motives, or, if I'm correct, that you change such programs.

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Good luck throughout it all.

Yours truly,

COPY:aga

PRC/nblech

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Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

2) [REDACTED]  
 3) [REDACTED] New Jersey  
 February 11, 1980

Director  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 9th and Pennsylvania Avenue  
 Washington, D.C.

**OUTSIDE SOURCE**

*public response to Abscam*

Dear Mr. Webster:

For what it's worth, here is one citizen who supports wholeheartedly your recent "Abscam" investigations.

I feel that public servants have a public trust to uphold and extreme vigilance is required to ferret out malfeasance.

I certainly hope that Congress, as a whole, will continue to support the FBI.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

36 FEB 13 1980  
 EXP. 13 1980  
 #40

cc: Sen. Bradley and Williams  
 Cong. Hughes  
 Aryeh Neier, Exec VP, ACLU

②

b-6

*ack  
 3/31/80  
 2B/K/KO*

63-17561-54

4/10/80  
 6 FEB 13 1980

[REDACTED]  
 N.J.

68 MAY 28 1980

↑ 3

ALX

*ppd/ack*

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Director's Sec'y	_____

February 11, 1980

Director of F.B.I.  
 Pennsylvania Ave.  
 944 10th North West  
 Washington, D.C.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*public response to Abscon.*

Dear Sir,

Congratulations! Your agency's investigation of what appears to be crooked Senators and Representatives is to be commended. We sincerely hope that this will be an on-going type of investigation... to the point where the crooks are afraid to except anything which they haven't legitimately worked for.

Why don't we try the oil companies, next?

63-17561-56

Sincerely yours,

ack  
 3/3/80  
 NB: 16/10

[Redacted signature block]

68 MAY 28 1980

Y No. [Redacted]

[Redacted stamp]

4/10/80  
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EXP. PROC.  
 30 FEB 20 1980  
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b-6

PPAOL



OFFICE OF THE  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
OF VIGO COUNTY

4) COURT HOUSE - ROOM 45 3)

5) TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 47807

812-238-8305

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Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

February 11, 1980

Mr. William Webster  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
FBI Building  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Webster:

Allow me to congratulate your department on the recently disclosed "Abscam" and "Brilab" operations instituted by your department. As long as these, and other undercover operations, are carried out meticulously to make sure entrapment is avoided, I believe local public officials such as myself, and citizens throughout the United States applaud these types of operations as being most effective tools used in fighting political corruption and organized crime.

It is indeed my hope that no Congressional moves will be exercised to curtail the FBI's undercover operations. Congratulations should go to your department.

Very truly yours,

c: Senator Birch Bayh  
Senator Richard Lugar  
Representative John Myers  
U.S. Attorney Virginia D. McCarty

68 MAY 28 1980

63-17561-58

FEB 14 1980

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1) [redacted]  
 2) [redacted]  
 3) [redacted] N.Y. [redacted] b6

February 11, 1980

Mr. William Webster  
 Director  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Washington, D.C. 20535

OUTSIDE SOURCE

public source re Abscam  
 Dear Mr. Webster:

**EXP. PROC.**  
 NO FEB 13 1980  
 #410

I very much appreciate and welcome the Bureau's investigations of political corruption as in the 'Abscam' cases.

Please accept this communication as an indication of my support for, and confidence in the F.B.I.

Yours very truly, b6

[redacted signature]

63-17561-60

Ack  
 3/31/80  
 NB: lmb

68 MAY 28 1980

6 MAY 1980  
 FBI

*[Handwritten initials]*

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
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N. J.

February 11, 1980

Mr. William H. Webster, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Webster:

I have been reading with considerable interest of your campaign on the assorted greedy government officials who fell into your trap. Congratulations, you have done a fine service for the public and while those who were caught will scream foul and demand their day in court the simple fact is that they were on the take and they deserve whatever they reap from their greed.

Regardless of what the various lawyers, defendants, sob sisters claim the F. B. I. does have a good image in the eyes of the people and they deserve a pat on the back for their good work. That a man like Harrison Williams would be so greedy for more money that he would sell out the people who placed him into office and paid his good salary just does not make good sense. How much money does a man have to have and how far will he go to satisfy his greedy hunger. The answer lies in your files and the foolish actions those who were placed in a position of trust by the public.

I do fear that your good work will suffer by foot dragging, by compromise on the part of higher ups, by the delaying actions of the lawyers and courts with endless reams of motions to delay justice. Try and uphold the public on this issue and you will gain thanks that will last much longer than any money that the culprits would have gained.

I do hope that you can find some way to extend my thanks for a job well done to your field men for their successful efforts.

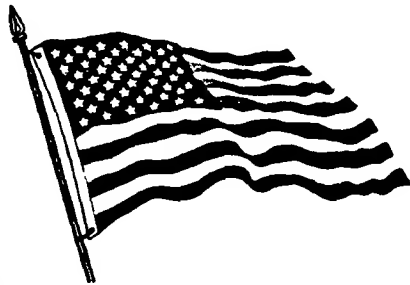
Very truly yours,

Ack  
3/31/80  
NB: lmb

68 MAY 28 1980

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EXP. PROC. #40



FEB 11, 1980

OUTSIDE SEAL

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Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
public response re Abscam  
DEAR DIRECTOR,

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK  
YOUR AGENCY HAS MY FULL SUPPORT  
IN ITS EFFORTS TO REDUCE BURGEON-  
ING CORRUPTION IN OUR GOVERNMENT.

[REDACTED]

1) [REDACTED]  
2) [REDACTED]  
3) [REDACTED]

Ack  
3/28/80  
NB:imb

63-17561-64  
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2 FEB 11 1980

68 MAY 28 1980

The ONLY Flag To Which We Pay Allegiance / Either National or International

66 FEB 11 1980  
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Director's Sec'y	_____

Public Response Re

WE HAVE SO 11/15/80 MANY BAD  
BANANAS IN CONGRESS - IF  
YOU DONT CALL THEM - THEY'LL  
ALL TURN BAD

  
3)  W.Y.  




50 FEB 12 1980 #40

63-17561-66

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FBI/DOJ

ATTORNEY AT LAW

ILLINOIS

TELEPHONE

OUTSIDE SOURCE

February 11, 1980

Members of the Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Members of the House of Reps  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Gentlemen: *Public the power re 4/5/80*

I have read with great interest the recent newspaper accounts of the "ABSCAM" investigation, conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and, more than that, selected comments pertaining to the investigation as enunciated by several members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives. As a citizen of these United States and a member of the American public, I think it is time that this matter be put into perspective with reference to middle class America.

It is our sincere hope that our elected representatives in Congress will be, like Caesar's wife, "above reproach". I have observed with increasing distress comments of certain members of our legislative representative body condemning the Federal Bureau of Investigation for conducting what appears to be a very successful investigation involving bribery and corruption with reference to our elected representatives and which may result in further judicial proceedings.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is, by law, charged with the investigation of crimes against the laws of the United States. I know of no federal law that exempts Congress from obedience to the laws of the United States and if members of Congress violate those laws, they deserve to be brought to justice.

I believe that it is time to put this matter into perspective. At the time of Watergate, Congress was most vociferous in endeavoring to bring the judicial arm of our government to the bar of justice and I believe it only fair that Congress should, at this time, commit itself to the doctrine that it must clean its own house.

Hon. William H. Webster, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
9th & Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20535

ADDRESS REPLY TO:

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☐ OFFICE  
☐ OFFICE

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ack 1/1/80  
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Members of the Senate  
Members of the House of Representatives  
February 11, 1980  
Page Two

This government of ours, if it is to survive, requires a sincere dedication on the part of our elected representatives to the basic tenets of integrity and justice. I do not believe that justice can be served on the basis of favoritism or privilege. More than that, it is time that the investigative arm, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was given credence for doing the job it was designed to do.

All of you gentlemen would be the first to agree that if the Federal Bureau of Investigation had conducted a similar investigation of the executive arm of government, Cabinet officials, members of State government, or for that matter, middle class America, that their efforts would be salutary. My question is why do you wish to be exempt?

I know that we, as Americans, seek integrity in our government. You owe to your electors that responsibility required of you by the United States Constitution. I suggest you remember that fact.

Never in my memory has the public opinion of the Congress of the United States been so low. I believe that it is time for you gentlemen to correct your image in the eyes of the American people.

b-6

Respectfully,



cc: Editor, Washington Post  
Hon. William H. Webster, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Hon. Benjamin Civiletti  
Attorney General of the United States  
Chicago Tribune  
Chicago Sun-Times  
Time Magazine  
Newsweek, Inc.